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Message Text

PAGE 01 CASABL 00421 081510 Z

10
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 RSR-01

/141 W
---------- 031660
R 081330 Z JUNE 73
FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2206
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CASABLANCA 0421

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB, MO
SUBJECT: BEN SEDDIK CONTINUES OPPOSITION TO OATUU

REF: CASABLANCA 350; ADDIS ABABA 6729

1. SUMMARY: AATUF PRESIDENT MAHJOUB BEN SEDDIK HAS THUS FAR CARRIED MOST MEMBER UNIONS WITH HIM ON OPPOSITION TO OATUU. MAJOR DEFECTORS APPEAR TO BE TANZANIA AND ZAMBIA. BEN SEDDIK UNLIKELY CHANGE HIS VIEWS ON OATUU AND CAN BE EXPECTED WORK AGAINST IT IN GENEVA. END SUMMARY.

2. AATUF EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT MET IN CASABLANCA MAY 14-15, BUT WITHOUT TANZANIAN AND ZAMBIAN UNIONS. LIBYANS, NOMINAL
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PAGE 02 CASABL 00421 081510 Z

MEMBERS AATUF, WERE PRESENT FOR FIRST TIME IN OVER YEAR. ALSO PRESENT WERE UNIONS FROM ALGERIA, EGYPT, MALI, CONGO, UPPER VOLTA, SOMALIA, NIGERIA AND DAHOMEY.

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

3. MEETING WAS REPORTEDLY STORMY, WITH SOME BLACK AFRICANS ADVOCATING DISSOLUTION AATUF. FINAL COMMUNIQUE WAS BEN SEDDIK VICTORY, HOWEVER, AND REITERATED SAME ANTI- OATUU LINE REPORTED REFTELS WITH NO INDICATION ANY DISAGREEMENT WITHIN AATUF RANKS.

4. BEN SEDDIK, NOW IN GENEVA, IS DETERMINED DO WHATEVER HE CAN TO KILL OATUU. HIS PUBLIC OPPOSITION BASED ON (1) SINCERE BELIEF AALC ORCHESTRATED FORMATION OATUU AND (2) FEAR AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS WILL DOMINATE NEW BODY. EQUALLY IMPORTANT ARE HIS FEARS LOSS OF PERSONAL PRESTIGE AND WFTU FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR AATUF. FINALLY, NAMING OF ABDERRAZAK AFILAL AS VICE PRESIDENT OATUU INSURED BEN SEDDIK' S UNDYING ANIMOSITY TOWARD THAT ORGANIZATION. BEN SEDDIK IS OPENLY CONTEMPTUOUS OF AFILAL, HEAD OF SMALL BUT BOTHERSOME ISTIQLAL UNION.

5. ALTHOUGH WE CAN SHED NO LIGHT ON BEN SEDDIK' S STRATEGY AT ILO, HE IS DETERMINED FIGHT TO PRESERVE AATUF AND HIS OWN INTERNATIONAL POSITION. IN ADDITION, WE ARE REPORTING SEPARATELY VIEW THAT WE MAY BE ENTERING PERIOD OF CLOSER NORTH AFRICAN TRADE UNION COORDINATION.
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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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To: STATE INFO ACCRA
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